

**In the specification:**

Please amend paragraph [0025] as follows:

[0025] FIGS. 1A through 1C demonstrate that GHRH super-active analogs increased GH secretagogue activity and stability. FIG. 1A is a comparison of the porcine wild type (1-40)OH amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 1) with the analog HV-GHRH (SEQ ID NO: 8). FIG. 1B show the effect of the different GHRH species on pig GH release in porcine primary pituitary culture. FIG. 1C demonstrates changes in stability which occur with HV-GHRH and wild type porcine GHRH during a 6 hour incubation.

**In the claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A method of improving or enhancing growth in an offspring from a female animal comprising the step of introducing an effective amount of a vector into either diploid or muscle cells of said female animal prior to or during gestation of said offspring, wherein said vector comprises a promoter; a nucleotide sequence; and a 3' untranslated region, under conditions wherein the nucleotide sequence is expressed and wherein said introduction and expression of said vector results in improved or enhanced growth in said offspring.
2. Cancelled.
3. Cancelled.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid sequence encodes a growth hormone releasing hormone or its analog.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said growth hormone releasing hormone is SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:8, or its respective analog.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said promoter comprises a synthetic myogenic promoter.